

SUMMARY RESPONSES TO AGENDA ITEMS

Arkwood Meeting of September 5, 2013 with Curt Grisham

(by EPA Region 6, EPA Headquarters, ADEQ *)

October 1, 2013

- I. Promise of the Administrator - EPA FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan (SP)
- II. Unfulfilled promises in official communications
- III. Ignored letter to John Chamberlin, Chair, Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) as delivered by Hon. Charles Moulton, Administrative Law Judge, APC&EC, not acknowledged or answered by APC&EC or ADEQ
- IV. ADEQ & EPA: resolve and unify Arkwood Superfund Site H2O Remedial Goal for pentachlorophenol contamination levels
- V. Suggestions for EPA improvement
- VI. New Conceptual Site Model
- VII. Comments and questions on EPA "draft of the corrected deed notice"
- VIII. Arkwood Land Revitalization
- IX. Liability concerns
- X. Close Out / Deletion
- XI. Discontinuance of on-site H2O injection "pilot study"

- I. Promise of the Administrator - EPA FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan (SP)
 - A. *"To follow the Administration's focus on strengthening programs and achieving results, the EPA is implementing near-term Priority Goals that serve as key indicators of progress toward our five strategic goals. We will continue to affirm the core values of **science, transparency and the rule of law** in addressing these priorities. These are the most urgent issues we must confront through 2015"* (Emphasis added)
 - 1. Lisa P. Jackson, p. 1, "Message from the Administrator," Fiscal Year 2011–2015 EPA Strategic Plan, Achieving Our Vision, U.S. Environmental Protection, Agency September 30, 2010
 - B. Strategic Goal 3 (of 5 in SP): "Cleaning Up Communities and Advancing Sustainable Development"
 - 1. Objective 3 (of 4 under Goal 3 in SP): "Restore Land"
 - a) "In an effort to improve the accountability, transparency, and effectiveness of EPA's cleanup programs, **EPA has initiated the Integrated Cleanup Initiative (ICI)**, a multi-year effort to better use the most appropriate assessment and cleanup authorities to address a greater number of sites, **accelerate cleanups, and put sites back into productive use** while protecting human health and the environment." (Emphasis added)
 - b) "**As part of the ICI**, EPA will develop a **new suite of performance measures** that will **support comprehensive management** of the cleanup life cycle by addressing three critical points in the cleanup process—starting, **advancing**, and **completing site cleanup**." (Emphasis added)
 - c) "EPA is also implementing its Community Engagement Initiative designed to enhance our involvement with local communities and stakeholders so that they may **meaningfully participate in decisions** on land cleanup, emergency response, and management of hazardous substances and waste." (Emphasis added)
 - d) "The goals of this initiative are to **ensure transparent and accessible** decision-making processes, to **deliver information** that communities can use to participate meaningfully, to **improve EPA responsiveness** to community perspectives, and to **ensure timely cleanup decisions**." (Emphasis added)
 - C. Questions pertinent to above:
 - (1) **Has ICI been implemented for Arkwood Superfund Site?**
 - (2) **Has Community Engagement Initiative been implemented for Arkwood Superfund Site?**
 - (3) **Describe EPA ICI performance measures regarding Arkwood for:**
 - (a) **accelerating cleanup**
 - (b) **advancing site cleanup**
 - (c) **completing site cleanup**
 - (d) **putting site back into productive use**
 - (e) **supporting comprehensive management**

(f) enhancing EPA involvement with local communities

The RPM is allowed to conduct his/her own community involvement at sites in Region 6. Donn Walters stated that he had worked on the Community Involvement Plan for the site, and that the original plan was in the repository for the site. Joy Campbell stated that fact sheets and history related to community involvement would be shared with Mr. Grisham. Joy Campbell advised that, in consultation with Stephen Tzhone, the Community Involvement Plan for the site would be updated. Carlos Sanchez stated that preliminary close out report (PCOR) had been completed, but the remedy at the site is on-going, not complete.

- (g) **delivering information**
- (h) **ensuring transparency and accessibility**
- (i) **improving EPA responsiveness**
- (j) **ensure timely cleanup decisions**

Carlos Sanchez explained that the EPA wants to be held to these standards. Transparency is critical to the EPA.

II. Unfulfilled promises in official communications:

- A. Letter dated November 15, 2006 from Devine to Arkansas State Representative Charles L. Ormond
 - 1. “Based on all available information, **I see no reason the site can not be redeveloped and placed back into productive use.** As we have discussed, this would allow Boone County’s economic development agency to market this site for future industrial uses.”
- B. Letter dated November 4, 1989 from Myron O. Knudson P.E., Director, Superfund Division, EPA Region 6 to Judge Dale Wagner of Boone County, Arkansas
 - 1. **“However, cleanup of the groundwater New Cricket Spring, is anticipated soon. As soon as this happens EPA plans to delist the site from the NPL and return it to productive use.”**

The Region will review its files for this letter and assess any recommendations and opinions in the context of the current condition involving the site.

III. Why was my letter May 16, 2012 to John Chamberlin, Chair, Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission never acknowledged or answered?

- A. Delivered via Hon. Charles Moulton, Administrative Law Judge on moulton@adeq.state.ar.us

ADEQ does not know why the Commission did not respond. When asked about the relationship between and the duties and powers of both the APC&EC and ADEQ, Dara Hall gave the following answer. Per state law Ark Code Ann. § 8-4-201 the Commission is given the duty to promulgate environmental rules and regulations, and to act as a quasi-judicial body to which parties could appeal certain final actions or decisions of ADEQ as allowed by State law. The Commission has no authority to direct ADEQ on its day- to-day operations. ADEQ pursuant to State law, again Ark Code Ann. § 8-4-201, is given the power to enforce and administer all laws and regulations relating to the pollution of any waters of the state.

Curt Grisham then asked who the Commission answered to, and Dara replied the commission answers to no one, they are an independent decision-making body, but their decisions can be appealed to Circuit Court pursuant to State law.

ADEQ & EPA: resolve and unify Arkwood Superfund Site H2O Remedial Goal for pentachlorophenol contamination levels and address following inconsistencies:

- A. "Estimated Environmental Concentrations (EECs) for surface water have been calculated by the Agency. Drinking water levels of concern (DWLOCs) for acute and chronic dietary risk from drinking water were calculated. DWLOCs calculated for surface water for pentachlorophenol were **10,465 ppb for adult males and females and 2,990 ppb for children ages 1-6.**" (Emphasis added)
 - 1. Frank T. Sanders, Director, Antimicrobials Division, EPA, in the Reregistration Eligibility Decision for Pentachlorophenol, September 28, 2008 EPA 739-R-08-008
- B. "Organisms in the effluent discharge stream experience chronic exposure, therefore; the **chronic standard of 15.57 ug/l is the appropriate standard for the Arkwood Site.**"
 - 1. Sarah Clem, ADEQ Branch Manager, Water Quality Planning, Water Division, ADEQ to EPA Region 6, letter of February 14, 2012
- C. "According to the email from Jean Mescher, McKesson, dated October 3, 2012 provided with the subject report, samples cannot be obtained 20 feet downstream from the weir as requested by ADEQ during periods of low flow since the effluent 'sinks into the subsurface before reaching the culvert'. This statement describes the effluent returning to a subsurface status and therefore returning to the state of groundwater. For this reason the **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for pentachlorophenol (PCP) of 1.0 ug/l should be used in lieu of the aquatic toxicity standard of 15.57 ug/l which is currently used.**"

Carlos Sanchez indicated that it is difficult in a karst environment. Stephen Tzhone stated that the groundwater will be verified in the conceptual site model, and that EPA will conduct an evaluation to make clear the cleanup number for drinking water. Jon Rausher stated that MCLs are promulgated under the CWA drinking water requirements. MCLGs are goals, so this requirement does not have to be met. Curt Grisham offered that the MCL should not apply. Stephen Tzhone referred to page 65 of the ROD for the site and indicated that ADEQ and EPA will work together to develop a clarifying statement for an MCL. (40 CFR 141.24 for PCP).

1. Mark Moix, Engineer, PE, Technical Branch, Hazardous Waste Division, ADEQ in a certified letter dated November 6, 2012 to Ruben Moya, RPM Superfund, EPA Region 6 (Emphasis added)

ADEQ commented that when Curt Grisham referenced the February 14, 2012 and November 6, 2012 letters to EPA recommending these as applicable screening levels for the site, he questioned the validity of these standards.

Annette Cusher replied that the MCL is the maximum permissible level of contaminant allowed in drinking water. Since the MCL is a federal law it is a legally enforceable standard.

Curtis Grisham asked which standard should apply to the Arkwood site, the surface water quality chronic standard of 15.57 ug/L, or the maximum contaminant level of 1.0 ug/L?

Dianna Kilburn replied that the surface water quality chronic standard and the maximum contaminant level are not mutually exclusive: the first standard applies to surface water (when the water exists as a spring), and the second standard applies to groundwater (before water exits the subsurface or when the surface water returns to a subsurface status). Overall, the final standard(s) agreed to will need to be compliant with state law.

“Sarah Clem replied that on August 16, 2013 Act 954 of 2013 became effective. Sarah Clem, not able to finish her statement, supplements her intended reply with the following explanation: Arkansas Code § 8-4-202(b)(3)(iv)(a) states: “Except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B)(iv)(b) of this section, a water quality standard to protect or maintain the use of a domestic water supply may be developed and implemented only for a stream segment, lake, or reservoir that: (1) Has an existing use as a domestic water supply; or (2) Is listed in the Arkansas Water Plan as a planned or potential domestic water supply.” Neither of these requirements apply to New Cricket Spring. Therefore, in our previous conference call the Designated Use of Domestic Water Supply for New Cricket Spring was present however after the effective date of Act 954 of 2013 it has been removed.

Curt Grisham questioned the applicability of the MCL drinking water standard for the Arkwood site.

Dara Hall replied that unless otherwise stated, if groundwater tests below 10,000 parts per million Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), the waters of the state of Arkansas will be considered drinking water.

Curt Grisham questioned again the validity of the MCL standard as law.

Dara Hall referenced a hard copy of the Code of Federal Regulations, turning to the appropriate page and stated that Title 40 CFR Part 141.24 contains the applicable MCL for pentachlorophenol.

In addition, ADEQ will provide the EPA with a written response to McKesson’s comments.

- D. “During the review, it was noticed that the ADEQ water quality standard of 15.57 ug/l is apparently being used as the screening level for PCP in lieu of the MCL of 1.0 ug/l. However, this standard pertains to aquatic toxicity only and does not address **potential human health concerns**. Even as it is apparently assumed that the stream is **not a source for potable water**, the **MCL of 1.0 ug/l should be the applicable screening level** for the following reasons:
- Much of the groundwater which rises from the spring and becomes surface

water returns to groundwater and **appears to migrate offsite, as groundwater** •According to past correspondence, it appears the consensus of the EPA, ADEQ and McKesson, that **some groundwater is circumventing the spring and migrating beyond** the spring as groundwater.”

1. Mark Moix, Engineer, PE, Technical Branch, Hazardous Waste Division, ADEQ in a certified letter dated November 6, 2012 to Ruben Moya, RPM Superfund, EPA Region 6 (Emphasis added)
- E. “At this time, **ADEQ has not adopted the Human Health Criteria** in EPA’s National Recommended Water Quality Criteria for Pentachlorophenol.”
 1. Annette Cusher, P.E., Remedial/Corrective Action Engineer Supervisor, Technical Branch, Hazardous Waste Division, ADEQ in email to Charles Grisham, Junior dated July 28, 2010
- F. Please see attached support documentation on separate DVD
 1. My email of August 22, 2013 to Stephen Tzhone, with nine (9) attachments
- V. Suggestions for EPA improvement (supporting documentation appended by CD)
 - A. Compare website for Arkwood reporting to that of Koppers Oroville Plant (R9)
 - B. Refine FOIA request/response process

Charles Faultry advised that the Region will be responsive to your requests. We will thoroughly review the situation to determine whether all responsive files have been released to you. Gloria Moran stated that documents that are responsive may be withheld by the Region if they are determined to be exempt under FOIA, more commonly, Exemption 4 (CBI), Exemption 5 (inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums that are deliberative and predecisional or are protected under the Attorney-Client privilege or Attorney Work-Product Privilege), or Exemption 6 (personal privacy information).

- C. Create marketplace for RfR sites on EPA website, assist owners with marketing
- D. Address systemic failures that cost taxpayers money and hurt agency efficacy
FOIA Online is the current tool by which information responsive to a FOIA request is made available to the public
- E. Proactively engage the community, economic development commissions, government, and private industry at the local, regional and state levels to assist in developing comprehensive solution for site reuse
- F. Get better contractors (or, preferably, assume in-house responsibility and maintain with Federal salaried staff) for EPA public-facing website (epa.gov), including all public subdomains
- G. Address the circumstances surrounding my FOIA request #R6-2013-003349, which became FOIA appeal EPA-HQ-2013-004621
- H. Address the September 21-23, 2010 Superfund Information Systems “Customized CERCLIS/RODS Report Order Form (ROD)” issue
- I. Address additional examples of unresponsiveness in documentation provided separately to EPA on CD
- VI. New Conceptual Site Model
 - A. “During the current 5 year review period, it is recommended that EPA Region 6 consider a re-review of existing site characterization data and information, the need to develop a more accurate CSM which advances the understanding of (1) the nature and extent of waste residuals that currently exist at the site, (2)

the ground water flow directions/patterns, (3) contaminant fate and transport, and (4) whether New Cricket Spring captures all of the contaminated water that emanates from the site. It is also recommended that a hydrogeologic investigation be initiated that includes the review of previous ground water investigations reports, remedial investigations, etc.

Dianna Kilburn indicated that MCL is the law. Carlos Sanchez stated that MCLs are adopted nationwide. Stephen Tzhone indicated that although the groundwater beneath the site was not currently used as a drinking water source, it was a class II B aquifer, a potential drinking water source. Stephen Tzhone indicated further that EPA directed cleanup at the site according to Arkansas Water Quality standards. Curt Grisham asked whether water is groundwater or surface water. ADEQ responded that drinking water designated use was recently passed by the legislature (Act 954, 2013), though not codified.

1. 13-R06-002) (S. Huling (GWERD) 580-436-8610) in Highlights, National Risk Management Research Laboratory Ground Water and Ecosystems Restoration Division Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Center, Status Report for the week of April 22, 2013

Stephen Tzhone indicated that the Arkwood site was one of the first sites in the country to undergo an assessment for dioxin. The new preliminary goal for the site is 660ppt. Marlene Berg informed that 20,000 pp_ represents the "legal conservative" at the site, but is protective. The 660ppt level is the most conservative level possible. Stephen Tzhone indicated that the Region will not know the appropriate level until the conceptual site model has been reviewed. EPA will oversee the sampling and evaluate the data. Stephen Tzhone mentioned that review of the conceptual site model should be completed in the Fall, that will be followed by sampling sometime later. to begin sometime thereafter.

No decision by EPA Region 6 to re-develop a groundwater CSM or conduct a hydrogeologic investigation has been made at this time. However, these recommendations are under consideration as part of the verification for contaminated groundwater migration remaining under control.

B. Clarify site's actual boundaries and legal description per the new conceptual site model

EPA will review the site model received from McKesson. The site boundaries may change when the dioxin re-evaluation is completed. For purposes of Institutional Controls, the most recent legal description of the site will serve as the site's actual boundaries.

1. Compare the following:
 - a) 1988 Consent Decree description (18.076 acres)

- b) 1990 ROD maps and description ("approximately 15 acres")
- c) "survey for McKesson Inc" dated 30 June 2009 with expanded boundary (30.74 acres)
- d) EPA R6 aerial map with expanded boundary created 17 November 2009 (30.74 acres)

C. Can site area boundaries be reduced in size as result of new Conceptual Site Model?

Possibly; however, the change in dioxin toxicity and goals by EPA in 2012 was toward a more stringent goal.

D. Result of the site's reassessment for dioxin risk

The results of the dioxin re-evaluation is planned for completion by September 2014.

E. Besides dioxin & pentachlorophenol, what other chemicals are of concern at Arkwood?

The contaminants at the site are: Pentachlorophenol (PCP), Dioxin, and Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (expressed as Benzo(a)pyrene equivalents).

F. Details and outcomes of any other studies performed for all media

Details and outcomes of studies on soil and groundwater will be shared when completed.

VII. Comments and questions on EPA "draft of the corrected deed notice" received August 27, 2013 from Gloria Moran, Assistant Regional Counsel (6RC-S) Superfund Branch, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

A. What is the legal definition of "groundwater" for these purposes?

Gloria Moran responded that groundwater is defined pursuant to CERCLA as "water in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the surface of land or water." Groundwater versus surface water. Curt Grisham opined that water was groundwater unless it pops up at New Cricket Spring and that most of the time the Spring was dry.

B. No drinking water (wells or otherwise) were ever documented as contaminated

1. City water supply was built as a precaution

Current data shows that the shallow groundwater is contaminated. Restrictions to groundwater will specify shallow groundwater.

C. Suggested changes:

1. paragraph 6 "Soil Contamination" should say "...concentrations that **do not** allow ..."

At sites, such as the Arkwood site, where the land has not been cleaned up to support unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, an IC is appropriate. Gloria Moran referred to 40 C.F.R. Section 300.430 (f)(4)ii which states:

If a remedial action is selected that results in hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining at the site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, the lead agency shall review such action no less often than every five years after the initiation of the selected remedial action.

Ms. Moran explained that at sites, such as the Arkwood site, where contaminants remain on property that result in unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, restrictions on the use of the property are appropriate. To eliminate any ambiguity in paragraph 6, the specification that the site is restricted to industrial use only will be added here.

2. paragraph 7 "Groundwater" add **"Property Owner shall have no responsibility whatsoever for the mouth of New Cricket Spring, where water remedy is in effect, as the mouth of New Cricket Spring is physically located off of the subject real property."**

ADEQ informed EPA that the mouth of Cricket Spring is located on adjacent property owned by McKesson. McKesson will be solely responsible for complying with requirements involving mouth of Cricket Spring. Present or successor Arkwood site owners, or Arkwood site lessees will not be responsible for measures in institutional requirements involving mouth of Cricket Spring.

3. paragraph 7 "Groundwater" add, **"Existing deep wells on site are not considered groundwater for the purpose of this IC and are therefore not limited or restricted hereby."**

The shallow groundwater only will be restricted.

4. paragraph 8 "Engineering Controls" Find more definitive and limiting language to specify these controls exactly

- a) more specific and limited than "...certain engineering controls including..."

Stephen Tzhone explained that engineering controls are associated with soil remedy or groundwater remedy and are necessary to protect the integrity of the remedy.

5. paragraph 8 "Engineering Controls" replace "for at least 30 years following the completion of remediation" with **"until December 31, 2025."**

Gloria Moran referred to the regulations pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act which require post-closure care of a hazardous waste unit such as a capped area for 30

years Carlos Sanchez stated that the thirty-year requirement is a standard timeframe for these requirements.

Thirty years is standard in the regulations of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. No revision.

6. paragraph 8 “Engineering Controls” ii) “maintaining the topsoil and grass cover” add **“except the owner may remove the topsoil and grass cover by providing a replacement concrete, asphalt or other compacted material cover acceptable to US EPA.”**

Curt Grisham offered that one anticipated use was a feedmill by Tyson or Butterball. Mr. Grisham suggested that the property could be paved with concrete. Several government participants reacted positively to the idea of a concrete slab on the property.

7. paragraph 12 “Monitoring and Maintenance, etc.” iii. “Certify in writing to the USEPA, etc.” replace “for at least 30 years following the completion of remediation” with **“until December 31, 2025.”** No revision to the date.
8. paragraph 14 “Notices” i. add **“except said notice is not required when the property is conveyed to a beneficiary of the estate mentioned above.”**

Gloria Moran indicated that the beneficiary of an estate must comply with the terms of the Institutional Control.

VIII. Arkwood Land Revitalization

- A. What is the timeframe for Arkwood’s return to productive use?
 1. Built into new Conceptual Site Model?

Arkwood can return to productive use at any time, provided that the remedy is not compromised. The remedy that cannot be compromised consists of addressing the soil and groundwater to numerical cleanup goals as specified in the 1990 Record of Decision (and to be updated with the dioxin re-evaluation) and institutional controls.

B. Status of SWRAU certification

The EPA is in the process of verifying if the site still meets the criteria for Site-wide Ready for Anticipated Use (SWRAU). The SWRAU criteria is explained at the EPA SWRAU website:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/effects/swrau.html> , and consists of:

- All aspects of the cleanup are in place and have been achieved for any media that may affect current and reasonably anticipated future land uses, so that there are no unacceptable risks.
- All land use restrictions or other controls required as part of the cleanup are in place.
- Sites are final or deleted NPL sites that have reached the construction completion milestone.

C. EPA affirms Casey Lockett-Snyder’s statements:

1. “Otherwise stated, EPA concurs that Arkwood Inc. Superfund site is ready for industrial reuse.”

2. "The current property owner has advised EPA that he is looking for potential purchasers for the Arkwood Inc. Superfund site property and EPA supports efforts to bring the site into industrial reuse."
 - a) Letters of February 28, 2012 from Mr. Luckett-Snyder to J. Michael Norton, Executive Director, The Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, Inc. and March 19, 2012 from Mr. Luckett-Snyder to Clyde Rhodes, Hazardous Waste Division Chief, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (since replaced now by Tammie J. Hynum)
- D. Status of determination of RfR effort
 1. as per "Guidance for Preparing Superfund Ready for Reuse Determinations" (OSWER 9365.0-33-D)
- E. Does Arkwood meet both the "PFP" and "RAU" measures?
 1. as per "Guidance for Documenting and Reporting Performance in Achieving Land Revitalization" (OSWER 9200.1-4)

Curt Grisham commented that a potential bona-fide prospective purchaser (BFPP), Tyson or Butterball, was interested in the site to use as a feed mill to grind corn that would then be supplied as feed to their poultry houses. He also posed a hypothetical re-use for the property: another wood treatment facility might be possible since the drinking water levels of concern may be relaxed in the future (a reference to the 9/28/2008 Reregistration Eligibility Decision for Pentachlorophenol cited in item IV A. 1. of his meeting agenda).

Dara advised Curt that while ADEQ would not oppose any prospective buyer/reuse of the property but that he might want to explore selling or leasing to an entity that does not treat wood. Dara stated that if he were the attorney for a prospective buyer of the site he would strongly advise his client not to engage in a similar wood treatment activity at the site precisely because it was done in the past. Putting another wood treatment facility on the property would be a litigation nightmare for the facility and subject them to potential liability for any contaminants found on the site in the future. (If the property is re-used this way, how could you ever prove the remaining site contaminants from the previous operation did not come from the new treatment facility?)

Near the end of the conference call, Mark Moix asked Curtis Grisham to please contact him with any ADEQ-related requests in the future. (Mark Moix can be contacted by phone at (501) 682-0852 or by e-mail at moix@adeq.state.ar.us.)

IX. Liability concerns

- A. What is financial "threshold" for EPA to pursue the assets of a PRP?

Gloria Moran explained that there was no financial threshold for EPA to pursue the assets of a PRP. Rather, the EPA determines whether a PRP has the ability to pay for or perform a response action by seeking financial information in the form of income and tax information from the PRP. Gloria Moran explained further that the EPA maintains the

ability to pursue its costs from a PRP . EPA's decision to pursue a PRP for its costs is based on the PRP's ability to pay. EPA pursues its costs from a viable PRP.

B. Exempt proceeds of any sale of Arkwood site from claim or garnishment?

Gloria Moran explained that the EPA may seek information about the proceeds of any sale of the site and decide accordingly.

C. Self-implementing aspect of Brownfield protections for BFPPs is intimidating
1. Other assurances possible for BFPPs?

Gloria Moran mentioned that a prospective buyer of the property was required to perform All Appropriate Inquiries prior to purchasing a site such as the Arkwood site in order to be a bonafide prospective purchaser and obtain protection from liability under Superfund. Ms. Moran continued that , to remain a non-labile buyer after purchasing the property, this buyer must comply with the continuing obligations requirement, including complying with the terms of the Institutional Control.

2. If agreement regarding the cleanup is complete and satisfied between parties, could EPA covenant with McKesson or other PRP promising not to sue?

Gloria Moran explained that the covenants respecting McKesson or other PRP are in the negotiated agreements, consent decrees for them. In general, however, a PRP or, rather, a Responsible Party, remains liable under CERCLA for the site. Curt Grisham stated that his father was in his 80's, and asked whether his father could be released from liability. Ms. Moran stated that Mr. Bud Grisham is a Responsible Party and remains liable under the Superfund Act for the site. Costs continue to be incurred because the remedial action at the site continues and EPA's oversight of the action therefore continues.

a) as per Ms. Moran in telephone conversation of March 25, 2013
3. de minimus/ de micromus or other provision to release my father as PRP from liability forever?
Gloria Moran explained that these Superfund categories of responsible parties do not apply to Mr. Bud Grisham. Mr. Bud Grisham remains liable as a Responsible Party.
4. Where do beneficiaries of estate who come into ownership of superfund site stand in liability chain?

Gloria Moran informed Mr. Grisham that a person who inherits property may be an innocent owner. Ms. Moran cited 42 U.S.C 9607(b)(3) of Superfund which provides that a person who takes by inheritance may be excluded from liability if 1): the release of contamination was caused solely by a third party; 2) as the landowner, he exercises due care with respect to the hazardous substance; and 3) as the landowner, he takes precautions against foreseeable acts or omissions of a third party. In

addition, Ms. Moran, indicated that, as the landowner, Mr. Grisham must provide full cooperation, assistance and facility access to EPA that is necessary for a response action at the site, comply with any land use restrictions established for the site, and not impede the effectiveness or integrity of the institutional control. (42 U.S.C. 9601(35)(A)(iii)).

X. Close Out / Deletion

**A. as per Close Out Procedures for National Priorities List Sites
(OSWER Directive 9320.2-22 May 2011)**

1. **“Deleting a site from the NPL requires a modification to the Code of Federal Regulations. To perform this task, the Administrative Procedure Act requires formal administrative rule-making procedures which include creating a docket, publishing notices in the Federal Register, and holding a formal public comment period.” (5.4 “The Deletion Process”)**

B. Has Mr. Sanchez written to ADEQ requesting their concurrence that the Arkwood Inc. Superfund site (EPA ID: ARD084930148 Site ID: 0600124) be submitted for partial deletion from the National Priorities List?

1. **“The first step involves EPA sending a letter to ADEQ requesting their approval to delete the site. CAS”**
 - a) **November 25, 2011, email to CCGJr from Carlos Sanchez**

C. Is Arkwood a candidate for Direct Final/ Direct Deletion/ Direct Final Rulemaking Process?

D. When will US District Court relinquish jurisdiction?

1. **“Retention of Jurisdiction,” Consent Decree, 1988**

E. What other loose ends must eventually wrap up for closeout/ deletion?

1. **Petition to amend?**

XI. Outcome of the discontinuance of on-site H2O injection "pilot study" and recommendation for the "study" going forward

A. Was sufficient data gathered to account for wide variations year-to-year of rainfall, other variables not analyzable in short term?

B. Resolve following discrepancies:

1. **On May 10, 2012 I wrote to Carlos Sanchez and said:**
 - a) **“I would like to draw your attention please to Jean Mescher's statement in her March 9, 2010 letter to EPA under IV. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED OR ANTICIPATED:**
 - (1) **‘None. Discontinued operation of the pilot system does not appear to have a detrimental effect on the concentration of PCP at the spring mouth.’**
 - b) **On May 11, 2012, at 10:56 AM, Carlos Sanchez wrote:**
 - (1) **“Thanks Curt for the information, This will help in making the decision to continue the pilot project. Last week we requested that Mckesson conclude this Pilot Project and prepare a report on the result of the pilot test. EPA believes that Mckesson has sufficient information to**

make an evaluation.“

- c) Compare and contrast the following two official statement by McKesson in reporting to EPA:**
 - (1) “The increased flow through New Cricket Spring since initiation of the pilot system for injection of ozonated and non-ozonated water into the flow channel of New Cricket Spring is believed to have enhanced the degradation of PCP.” (Emphasis added)**
 - (a) From “2011 Annual Report Arkwood, Inc.” prepared on behalf of McKesson Corporation**
 - (2) “Discontinued operation of the pilot system does not appear to have a detrimental effect on the concentration of PCP at the spring mouth.” (Emphasis added)**
 - (a) Jean A. Mescher, Project Coordinator, Director, Environmental Services, McKesson in letter of March 9, 2010 to Shawn Ghose, EPA Project Coordinator**
- C. Will onsite injection operations cease permanently?**
 - 1. remove apparatus**
 - 2. fill and seal wells drilled onsite by PRP**
 - 3. repair soil cap disrupted by this “pilot” at the site of contamination**

Curt Grisham stated that the approval letter for the pilot injection system does exist. He indicated that the pilot injection well should come out and asked how did the government know whether it was causing a release. Stephen Tzhone responded that McKesson was asked to cease operating the injection well. Mr. Tzhone indicated further that the injection well will remain off.

ATTACHMENT

ATTENDEES

Community:

Curt Grisham, Community Member

EPA R6:

Stephen Tzhone, Remedial Project Manager

Gloria Moran, Site Attorney

Ghassan Khoury, Risk Assessor

Jon Rauscher, Risk Assessor

Kent Becher, USGS Hydro Support

Dwayne Patrick, FOIA Coordinator

Donn Walters, Community Involvement

Joy Campbell, Community Involvement Team Leader

Carlos Sanchez, AR/TX Remedial Section Chief

Charles Faultry, Remedial Branch Associate Director

EPA HQ:

Marlene Berg, National Dioxin Coordinator

Scott Huling, Hydro Support

ADEQ:

Mark Moix, Project Coordinator

Dara Hall, Site Attorney

Grant Kneebone, Geologist

Charles Johnson, Geologist

Mary Barnett, Water Quality Ecologist

Annette Cusher, Engineer Supervisor

Dianna Kilburn, Geologist Supervisor

Doug Ritchie, Risk Assessor Supervisor

Jay Rich, Hazardous Waste Division, Technical Branch Manager

Sarah Clem, Water Quality Branch Manager